



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021

No. 66

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 19, 2021, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, in You we live and breathe and have our being. We pause to acknowledge that nothing will take place today that isn't under Your authority, subject to Your decrees, or reliant on Your sustaining Word.

Bless us, then, at the start of this legislative day. As we have made the first item on the agenda to orient ourselves to You, the giver of our lives, the creator of the universe, the author of our faith, so may our priorities throughout this day and in our lives, be thus aligned to Your will.

Call us to yield to Your leadership that You would direct our words and deeds. Censure us with Your loving judgment and may we with humility respond to Your divine guidance. Speak Your Word into our lives, that we would find refreshment in its promises and wisdom in its precepts.

Remind us in this moment of prayer, that when we place You first, You will order our steps and crown our efforts with success. In this is our hope and salvation. In Your saving name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Jour-

nal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRIBUTE TO SHAWN FRIEDKIN

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Shawn Friedkin, who left this Earth on March 3 after a courageous battle with cancer.

When Shawn was 27, he was tragically injured in a car accident. The accident took away Shawn's ability to walk, but it also inspired him to dedicate his life to helping other exceptional people. He founded the nonprofit association, Stand Among Friends, whose mission followed Shawn's, to help people with disabilities to live a life without limits.

Stand Among Friends partnered with Florida Atlantic University to open the Disability Center, which provides resources and career guidance to help individuals with disabilities find meaningful employment. Shawn was a founding member of the Boca Raton Advisory Board for People with Disabilities. He advocated for the disabled community and was appointed to the White House Healthcare Task Force.

Shawn's mission was to help people with disabilities embrace their differences, realize their abilities, and leave a positive impact on their community. And his positive impact leaves a lasting legacy through the lives of all the people he helped personally, and most of all through his loving family. All of us are privileged to call him a friend.

Above all, Shawn was devoted to his family and cherished spending time with his loving wife of 38 years, Lisa, and their incredible daughters, Bennett and Sydney. We will all miss Shawn's endless kindness, compassion, and generosity. Our lives are better for having Shawn as part of them.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shawn Friedkin's life on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LINDSAY OVERBAY

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H1847

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Lindsay Overbay.

Lindsay lost her life, and several of her coworkers were injured, in a tragic and senseless attack on the Allina Health Clinic in Buffalo, Minnesota, on February 9.

We continue to pray for Lindsay and her family and for the full and speedy recovery of her coworkers.

Lindsay was the best Minnesota has to offer. She devoted her life to family and her community, and her career to caring for people. She was only 37 years old. She leaves behind her husband, Donnie, and two young children, Gavin and Ava.

Special thanks to Wright County Sheriff Sean Deringer and his deputies and the city of Buffalo Police Department for their immediate and professional response that ended the threat and prevented further loss of life.

Our community must heal, and we will heal from this sad event, but we will always remember Lindsay, Donnie, Gavin, Ava, and the entire Allina family.

VOTER SUPPRESSION

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to sound the alarm about the ongoing efforts to pass voter suppression laws across our Nation and in my home State of Texas.

Republicans have made it a priority to pass so-called "election integrity bills." These misnamed bills are solely aimed at limiting access to the ballot box, particularly in urban counties like mine in Harris County.

In the 2020 election, Harris County saw record turnout despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We implemented drive-through voting, authorized voting sites to stay open until 10 p.m., and several locations were open for 24 hours. Hundreds of thousands of voters used these options to exercise their constitutional right without endangering themselves or their loved ones.

Now, Republicans in the State legislature are trying to ban and limit these measures under the false premise of "election integrity."

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge the Senate to pass H.R. 1, which would expand access to the ballot box and prohibit restrictions on drive-through voting for members of my community and all the voters across Texas.

Voting is a right that should be encouraged, not restricted.

REMEMBERING BILL DOWNEY III

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Mr. Bill

Downey III of St. Simons Island, Georgia, who passed away on February 28 at the age of 87.

Bill was a gentleman in every sense of the word, and he dedicated his life to serving others. After proudly serving his country in the United States Army, Bill met his wife of 58 years, Beth Newton.

Service to his community was an integral part of Bill's character. His kindness and selflessness extended to every area of his life, including his time as president of the Golden Isles Board of Realtors, chairman of the St. Simons Island Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Airport Commission, and chairman of the Board of Frederica Academy.

He was also a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, where he served as senior warden. Everyone who knew Bill recognized his giving heart and love for the outdoors. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

HOPE IN THE VACCINE

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic has cast a dark cloud over the world. Many have lost family members, friends, and other loved ones to the virus. And after many dark months, hope is here.

With the help of public health experts and science, we have vaccines to protect us and save lives. Democrats fought hard for a robust \$20 billion national vaccination program in the American Rescue Plan. With these funds, we can ensure that everyone has access to a vaccine.

In my district, everyone 16 and older is eligible to get vaccinated. And as of this week, Riverside County reported that at least 1.3 million doses have been administered and over 400,000 residents are fully vaccinated, but to reach herd immunity, everyone must get vaccinated. We are all in this together and we can beat this virus together.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES H. COOLIDGE

(Mr. FLEISCHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Technical Sergeant Charles H. Coolidge of Signal Mountain, Tennessee, and recognize a lifetime of service to our Nation.

Sergeant Coolidge passed away on April 6, 2022. Sergeant Coolidge was the second-to-last surviving Congressional Medal of Honor recipient from World War II and was the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from the European theater.

Born on August 4, 1921, Sergeant Coolidge is a national hero. During the pe-

riod of October 24 through October 27, 1944, Sergeant Coolidge led a valiant repulsion of German infantry and tank units near the French town of Belmont-sur-Buttant. Prior to that, he had received the Silver Star for valiant combat in Italy.

Sergeant Coolidge's place in American history deserves the great acclaim bestowed on him then with the Medal of Honor, and now. He is truly an American hero and will be greatly missed.

BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK

(Ms. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, this week was Black Maternal Health Week, an important opportunity to discuss the disparities affecting Black mothers.

Maternal mortality rates have dropped around the world, but in the U.S. they have risen, leaving behind devastated families and children who will grow up never knowing their moms. And for Black moms and other women and birthing people of color, the crisis is even more severe.

Throughout Black Maternal Health Week, I had deeply impactful conversations with moms, healthcare professionals, Secretary Becerra, and activists who have poured their hearts into solving this crisis. I was also inspired by other conversations I saw across the country.

The need to address our Nation's maternal health crisis has never been more urgent, especially as we continue to confront a pandemic that has exacerbated existing health inequities, particularly for pregnant people. I am especially excited to have the Biden/Harris administration's partnership in this critical work.

Madam Speaker, with the American Rescue Plan and solutions like the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act, we can save lives, end disparities, and achieve true equity for all of our moms.

THE MASTERS 2021 OMS

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, during the first week of April, the world's top golfers are invited to my hometown of Augusta, Georgia, as they compete in the most prestigious tournament in the world known as The Masters. As people from around the world visit the Augusta National Golf Club or tune in from the comfort of their homes, they get to experience a tradition unlike any other.

After the 2020 Masters Tournament was postponed to the fall with no spectators due to the pandemic, there was a lot of excitement to be back this year—even at limited capacity.